

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
8 January 2004 (08.01.2004)

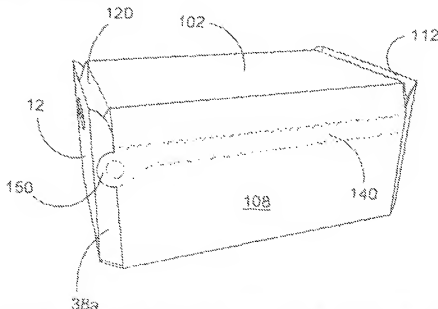
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/002837 A3

- (51) International Patent Classification: B65D 5/32
54b, 5/54
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US2003/020216
- (22) International Filing Date: 26 June 2003 (26.06.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
0214743.2 26 June 2002 (26.06.2002) GB
0214849.5 26 June 2002 (26.06.2002) GB
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- (81) Designated States (*except for* ARD) (pct): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, GW, HK, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KR, KZ, LC, LI, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PK, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SI, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*except for* ARD) (pct): GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SI, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW; Eurasian (pct): AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, PL, TJ, TM; European (pct): AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LI, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR; OAPI (pct): BF, BJ, CV, CF, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, MU, SN, TD, TG.
- Published:
— with international search report
— before the expiration of the time limit for attending the claims and to be republished in the event of any correction of amendments.
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 20 April 2004

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CARTON AND CARTON BLANK



- (57) Abstract: A carton and a blank for forming a carton including a tray portion (10) with an open top and a cover (108) connected to the tray portion (10) to close the top of the tray portion. The tray portion has a pair of opposed end walls (12, 16) each having a fold aperture (24, 22) and the cover (108) has a pair of end flaps (112, 120) disposed internally of the end walls (12, 16) of the tray portion (10). Another aspect of the invention relates to covers or top caps, including a carton referred to below and a collapsible carton (201, 301) retained within the carton.

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For two letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "United States National Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the P.T.O. Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 03/20216**Box 1** Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos. [] because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos. [] because they relate to parts of the international application which do not comply with the procedural requirements to such an extent that no meaningful search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos. [] because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box 2 Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos. []
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is limited to the inventions first mentioned in the claims, i.e., claim(s) []

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ASA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-11

1.1. claims: 1-6

A carton including a tray portion with an open top and a cover connected to the tray portion to close the top of the tray portion, wherei the tray portion has a pair of opposed end walls each having a hand aperture and wherein the cover has a pair of end flaps disposed internally of the end walls of the tray portion, and two blanks for forming said carton whereby

the handle has a reinforced protecting structure

1.2. claims: 7-8, 11

A carton including a tray portion with an open top and a cover connected to the tray portion to close the top of the tray portion, wherei the tray portion has a pair of opposed end walls each having a hand aperture and wherein the cover has a pair of end flaps disposed internally of the end walls of the tray portion, and two blanks for forming said carton whereby

the tray portion and cover are formed from first and second separate blanks respectively

1.3. claims: 9-10

A carton including a tray portion with an open top and a cover connected to the tray portion to close the top of the tray portion, wherei the tray portion has a pair of opposed end walls each having a hand aperture and wherein the cover has a pair of end flaps disposed internally of the end walls of the tray portion, and two blanks for forming said carton whereby
a tear strip is provided for opening the package

2. claims: 12-28

A package including a carton, articles arranged in rows and accommodated within the carton, a collapsible carrier placed within the carton, and the blanks for realizing this package.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

 Return: Application No.
 PC1/US 03/20216

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER		
IPC 7	B6505/32	B6505/46 B6505/54
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification systems		
B. FIELD OF SEARCHING		
Minimum documentation: IPC 7 B6505		
Documented data: database system followed by classification symbols		
Documents: in searched data: more than minimum documentation to the extent that search documents are included in the field searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search process of this case and, where practical, search terms used		
EPO-Internal		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Character of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim no.
X	CA 922 280 A (LANGEN MARINUS J M) 6 March 1973 (1973-03-06)	1,4,7,11
Y	page 4, line 25 - page 6, line 18; figures 1-3	8-10
X	US 4 871 067 A (VALENTI DANTE) 3 October 1989 (1989-10-03)	1,4,7,11
	column 3, line 1 - line 59; figures 1-3	
X	US 4 037 777 A (MAUGHAN WILLIAM G) 26 July 1977 (1977-07-26)	1-6
	column 1, line 45 - column 2, line 58; figures 1-3	
Y	GB 2 171 672 A (MEAD CORP) 3 September 1986 (1986-09-03)	9,10
	figure 4	
	- / - -	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.
* Similar categories of cited documents: "A" documents defining the prior art of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "I" documents which may become of particular relevance (where it is stated in the document that the publication date of another document or other special reason (see, for example) "O" document relating to an oral disclosure, i.e., exhibition or other means "P" documents published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
* Late documents published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but used to understand the principles in theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance, the claimant's invention would be considered novel or cannot be considered to exist in the prior art when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance, the claimant's invention cannot be considered to exist in the prior art when the document is combined with one or more other state of the art documents "Z" division of member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of entry in the international search report
20 October 2003		17. 02. 2004
Name and mailing address of the filer		Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.O. Box 1600, 7000 Lausanne, Switzerland Tel: (+41) 21 314 2040, Fax: (+41) 21 314 2041, E-mail: (+41) 21 314 2041		Bevilacqua, V

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter-Application No.
PCT/US 03/20216

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages.	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4 715 493 A (DREYFUS ROGER) 29 December 1987 (1987-12-29) column 4, line 59 - column 5, line 30; figures 11,12 -----	8
Y, P	EP 1 279 618 A (GOOSSENS BEAUVAIS) 29 January 2003 (2003-01-29) claim 1 -----	8
A	US 5 941 809 A (MCCARTHY LYNN J ET AL) 24 August 1999 (1999-08-24) column 1, line 25 - column 2, line 23; figure 3 -----	3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/US 03/20216

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cited in search reportPublication
datePatent family
member(s)Publication
date

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